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# Global Missions as Personal Mission

**Students  
work out  
their faith  
in service  
throughout  
the world**



Photo: David V. Photography

# The Global Reach

## of Christian Higher Education

BY JUSTIN D. COOPER

**Y**ou may be surprised to learn of the many ways the Lord has enabled Redeemer University College to participate in the international ministry of Christian higher education. As you've become familiar with the outstanding teaching, scholarship and service of our faculty and

students, you may not have realized that, while these activities take place mainly on our Ancaster campus, their reach extends far beyond the confines of this suburban location.

Such a global reach is an appropriate reflection of the world-wide scope of Christ's coming Kingdom. These days we hear a lot about growing trends of globalization in reference to communications, trade and the environment. But the Bible has long proclaimed the global scope of God's plan of salvation, beginning in Genesis and God's promise to Abraham to bless all nations through him, to Revelation and John's vision of the multitude around the throne which includes every tribe and tongue and nation under heaven.

And so today it is exciting that Christians in North America are becoming more aware that Christianity is a world-wide movement and that Christian higher education is an international ministry. In the global scope of Christianity, we in the west are minority partners who have much to learn from the vibrant faith of growing churches in other parts of the world. But in Christian higher education, because of our strong Christian

tradition and financial resources, we are in a leadership position with much to offer to those in developing countries.

It is therefore a wonderful privilege that Redeemer University College can participate in this world-wide movement of Christianity and mission of Christian higher education through the work of our faculty, research centres and students. Whether through the speaking tours, conference papers and publications of our faculty, or the international conferences and publications of our research centres, Redeemer is becoming known in many more places around the world than just Ontario!


And our students are also catching the global vision of Christ's Kingdom. Whether through the presence of students from some ten other countries on campus, participation in mission trips to other parts of the world to bring Christ's love and mercy, or working in an international setting once they have graduated, our students are also becoming involved in the world-wide movement of Christianity. We are also working to build an international awareness into the courses of our liberal arts and sciences core curriculum.

In these and other ways, we at Redeemer University College are being blessed as we seek to play a role in the international reach of Christian higher education. So next time you think of Redeemer's work in teaching, scholarship and service, think of a mission with a global vision and an increasingly international reach. **I**

**And so today it is exciting that Christians in North America are becoming more aware that Christianity is a world-wide movement and that Christian higher education is an international ministry**



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*Clarification: The photo accompanying the Frances Manias-Jackson article in the Spring 2001 issue was intended to demonstrate her commitment to her sport-competitive body-building and to her life of thankfulness to God. We regret that some readers were offended.*

## What's Inside

### Editors

Tim Wolfert '87, Petra Zantlingh

### Designer

Petra Zantlingh

### Assistant Designer

Marg Oorebeek

### Contributors

Marcia Mantel '97, Frances Manias-Jackson '96,  
Grag Sennema '93, Ron Van der Heiden

### Editorial Advisory Board

Rose Bouwers '96,  
Jack Klooster '97, Mark Van Beveren

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Editorial communications can be sent to The Editor, *Images*, Redeemer University College, 777 Garner Road East, Ancaster, Ontario L9K 1J4

Tel: (905) 648-2131 X 4292  
Fax: (905) 646-2134

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[images@redeemer.on.ca](mailto:images@redeemer.on.ca)



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Cover: As far back as 1989 Redeemer students have been working on service projects. Photo shows some of the work done in 1993 in the Dominican Republic (Photo courtesy of Student Life)

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# Mixing it up out there

BY TIM WOLFERT

**It is a task that calls us to move beyond our own familiar communities and into a broader public sphere that can be indifferent, or even hostile, to a comprehensive understanding and expression of Christianity**

**T**here is an adage that says "If you stick your nose out, it gets bloodied." The entire Christian education movement has been encouraged, however, by two very public recent

events where institutions have stuck their noses out. First, Trinity Western University, a sister Christian university in Langley, BC, has won its case in the Supreme Court of Canada. This decision confirms TWU's right to expect its students to conform to a lifestyle "Standard of Conduct" that is explicitly Christian. (For more information on TWU's case, please visit their web-site: [www.twu.ca/challenge](http://www.twu.ca/challenge)).

Secondly, after 30 years of prayer and lobbying, the Ontario government introduced a tax credit to assist parents who send their children to privately-funded schools, including Christian schools. It may not be everything that the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools (OACS) and other advocates would like, but it is still a tremendous blessing for parents who choose Christian schools for their children (see [www.oacs.org](http://www.oacs.org) for more information).

Neither one of these events has a direct impact on Redeemer University College. But, as we rejoice with both of these communities, we can see a valuable reminder in these events for Redeemer, and

the broader Christian community.

We recently celebrated Pentecost. One of the striking features of that day was the way the disciples were empowered and emboldened to preach the Gospel to "Jews from every nation under heaven." The Holy Spirit moved the disciples that day to go public, beyond the synagogues of their own community, in order to extend the good news to a wide audience. Redeemer's call is no less than to proclaim Christ in the area of higher education. It is a task that calls us to move beyond our own familiar communities and into a broader public sphere that can be indifferent, or even hostile, to a comprehensive understanding and expression of Christianity.

Is it easy? Of course not. Both TWU and the OACS (with its partners) spent a great deal of time and money on presenting and defending their respective cases, and both have had their noses publically tweaked by those wanting to drag them down. Nor is the battle finished; there will always be challenges to those who wish to proclaim Christ as Lord of all.

But let us be bold, empowered by the Spirit to reach out and stake Jesus' claim on all creation, reflecting His Light in an otherwise dark society. We may get our noses a bit bloodied, but even still — it's good for Christians to stick their noses into things once in a while. |



# The Class of 2001

A record 113 graduates were honoured during the 16<sup>th</sup> Commencement of degrees this past May. The ceremony marked the first time students graduated from Redeemer University College, a result of last year's charter amendment which changed Redeemer's institutional name. Mr. Michael Coren, author and broadcaster, gave the graduation address entitled "Mere Christian," and Greg Bylsma reflected on his classmates' years at Redeemer.

Two graduates took home special awards: Debbie Hughes of Beamsville, ON, an Honours Psychology student, earned the Governor General's Silver Medal for having the highest academic standing in her class, and Graham Cubitt, a History major from New Lowell, ON, received the Faculty Award. The Faculty Award is given annually upon recommendation of the Faculty to that graduate who best exemplifies academic excellence, Christian leadership, and active participation in the life of Redeemer.

Commencement is a rite of passage for the Grootenboer family. When their daughter Jennifer walked across the stage at this year's ceremony, it marked the fifth child of Ed and Willie to graduate from Redeemer University College. Since 1983, there has been only one year that one of their children has not been studying at Redeemer. "A number of families have sent three, or even four children to Redeemer," Dr. Cooper noted during the ceremony, "but the Grootenboers are the first to have five children graduate." **TR**



Top, graduates at this year's ceremony celebrate with laughs and hugs. Right, author and broadcaster, Michael Coren, who gave the address. Below, From left to right: Daughters, Denise Dykstra '87 and Jennifer '91, with their parents, Willie and Ed Grootenboer, along with son Roger '91. Missing are sons Tim '94, and Michael '96.



# Hobbies for Hilltop

**Redeemer community raises over \$3000 for Christian university in Nigeria**

The Spiritual and Service Committee of Student Senate (SASC) organized a fundraising event to support Hilltop University, a sister Christian institution in Lagos, Nigeria. Students, faculty and staff raised \$3,254, which will provide scholarships for local Nigerian students to attend Hilltop. Redeemer students have long supported Hilltop, and their annual fund raising activity is a great opportunity for many of them to help support the same type of education that they are receiving.

This year, the SASC organized a service auction. Although some of the more than 50 different services and goods were donated by local merchants, most came from students, faculty and staff. The auctioned items included gourmet dinners, haircuts, painting services, an airplane trip, and a ride to the annual Spring Banquet in a Hummer.

As an extra incentive, the "Cafeteria Ladies" agreed to dye their hair blue if the auction brought in more than \$3000. True to their word, at a ceremony the following week in the Centre Foyer, eight of them had their do's dyed to a bright, but not permanent, hue.

Student Senator Rosalee Roth '02 of Tavistock, ON commented on the event's success: "We were amazed to see God provide for the event and move in people's hearts to donate and bid. We raised more than we had expected." Next year, Senate hopes to expand the event, bringing in more community sponsors and donors. **TW**

# Major Awards for Redeemer Athletes

BY FRANCES MANIAS-JACKSON '96



*Professor Al Brown (left) together with Dr. Wylse van Dijk (right) present Anita Kraft (middle) with the OCAA All-Academic Award.*

The 2000-01 academic year saw a number of Redeemer athletes recognized for outstanding contributions both on and off the court. Redeemer University College and its supporters salute these young men and women for their accomplishments as scholar-athletes.

Anita Kraft, a second year Physical Education major, received the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association's most prestigious award, the OCAA Female Athlete of the Year. Kraft, from Millgrove, ON, starred for

Redeemer as a member of the Women's Basketball, Soccer, and Indoor Soccer teams.

This award considers the thousands of athletes from all 29 member schools of the OCAA. It is the first time a Redeemer athlete has been given such an award.

Not only did Kraft excel athletically, but she maintained the same drive academically. Her Dean's Honour List also earned her an OCAA All-Academic Award. She was also named the 2000-2001 Redeemer University College Female Athlete of the Year.

**Some of Kraft's Personal Statistics & Highlights for the 2000-2001 season include:**

## Outdoor Soccer

- MVP for Redeemer University College
- 1.22 goals against average
- Central West Division All-Star
- Central West Goalkeeper of the Year
- OCAA Athlete of the Week - October 16/00
- Athlete of the Month for Redeemer University College (October)
- Back-to-back shutouts against nationally ranked Mohawk College and Humber College

## Indoor Soccer

- MVP for Redeemer University College
- 0.6 goals against average at Regionals
- 2.2 goals against average at Championships

## Basketball

- MVP for Redeemer University College
- OCAA Athlete of the Week - November 13/00
- 2<sup>nd</sup> year at the OCAA All-Star game
- Fourth in OCAA Scoring with 17.2 ppg
- Second in OCAA Free Throw Percentage with 68%
- Athlete of the Month at Redeemer University College (January)





### Colin DeRaaf

**Colin DeRaaf '02** from Corbyville, ON also became the first Redeemer student athlete to earn another distinguished award, the **Canadian Colleges Athletic Association All-Academic Award**. DeRaaf is a third year Honours Human Resource Development and Psychology Major. The award recognizes his All-Star status in the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association West Region for Men's Volleyball, and his Dean's Honour List achievement this past term.

### Ontario Colleges Athletic Association All-Academic Awards

The OCAA All-Academic Award is for athletes who have achieved Dean's Honour List status at Redeemer University College while competing within the OCAA.

Jane Bouwma, Volleyball  
Hannah Braam, Volleyball  
Greg Bylsma\*, Indoor and Outdoor Soccer  
Carmie DeGraaf, Outdoor Soccer and Basketball  
Colin DeRaaf, Volleyball  
Trisha Hennewyn-Brouwer, Volleyball  
Brenda Koetsier, Indoor and Outdoor Soccer  
Anita Kralt, Indoor and Outdoor Soccer, Basketball  
Ben Nywering, Indoor and Outdoor Soccer

Julie Stapper\*\*, Indoor and Outdoor Soccer  
Marie Stevens, Basketball  
Sharon van Staaldunen, Indoor and Outdoor Soccer  
\*\* also selected as Redeemer University

College's **Scholar Athlete of the Year**, recognizing their athletic contributions and academic achievements.

## 2000-2001 Redeemer University College Athletic Award Winners

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Athletic Awards Ceremony and Banquet was held on Tuesday, April 11, 2001. It is also known as The Bow's Head Supper, an annual tradition in which we honour the athletes and coaches whom we know as the Redeemer Royals. Many Redeemer athletes were recognized for their contributions in individual sports at the ceremony. In addition, Redeemer's Female and Male Athletes of the Year were announced. This award recognizes outstanding performance, dedication and commitment to the Redeemer athletic program.

As mentioned above, Anita Kralt, was selected as the Female Athlete of the Year.

The Male Athlete of the Year is **Paul Voortman '01**, from Chino, CA. Paul



played Men's Basketball, Indoor and Outdoor Soccer this year, was selected as a OCAA Men's Basketball 2<sup>nd</sup> team West Region All-Star, was third in OCAA league scoring with 22.5 ppg, and provided outstanding leadership and performance as the Redeemer MVP in basketball this year.

## Board approves new residence names

At its May 25 meeting, the Board of Governors approved a plan for naming Redeemer's residences. In 1999, the Board struck a committee to develop guidelines for the naming process, and last October a committee representing all parts of the Redeemer community met to consider options based on those guidelines.

The Committee first noted that each of the existing townhouse residence parking lots should be named a "Court," and that the newest residence, and all subsequent residences that are built on the same design, should be named a "Hall." This will create some consistency, yet it also recognizes the distinctive types of housing arrangements found at Redeemer.

The Committee wanted names that would reflect the Christian heritage of Redeemer, especially names that have some historical significance. Specifically, the recommendation is to name the residences after i) the Reformers; ii) Christians in the Arts; and iii) Christian Leaders.

With the Board's approval, the existing townhouse residence parking lots will be named after Reformers: **Calvin Court**, after John Calvin, the father of Reformed theology; **Luther Court**, after Martin Luther, the great warrior of the Reformation; and **Cranmer Court**, after Thomas Cranmer, the founder of the English Reformation. The new residence has been named **Augustine Hall**, after church father Augustine, the author of much of the theology that has guided Christians through the ages.

The Board also approved the name **Whaley Teaching Garden** for the native species garden under development. This recognizes the Whaley family, which had owned the Redeemer property since the 1800s.

The Residence Naming Committee thanks all those who offered suggestions. The multitude of worthy options made the process long and challenging. But in the end, it is a powerful testimony to the many, many individuals throughout history, both recent and ancient, who helped form and shape the dream and vision of Christian higher education. **TV**





*Redeemer students take a break from their work with YWAM in Amsterdam*

# Missions as Mission

Redeemer students work out their faith through service

BY MARCIA MANTEL '97

HER YARD NEEDED A BIT OF ATTENTION, A FEW THINGS CLEANED UP HERE AND THERE. AND THE STEPS. THE STEPS WERE MOSTLY ROTTED. SHE HAD NEVER HAD THEM REPLACED IN THE MANY YEARS SHE HAD LIVED THERE. SHE CAME OUTSIDE TO WATCH AS THE STUDENTS RIPPED THEM OUT, AN IMPROMPTU SHOWER OF SAWDUST WITH EVERY TUG. THOSE STEPS JUST HADN'T FARED AS WELL AS SHE HAD, OVER THE YEARS. SHE STOOD ON THE EDGE OF THE PORCH, AND ONE STUDENT REACHED OUT A HAND TO HELP HER DOWN AT THE PLACE WHERE THE NEW STEPS SOON WOULD BE. SHE SMILED, HER SMALL, 92-YEAR OLD FACE CREASING LIKE THE ROAD MAP OF MISSISSIPPI IN THE GLOVE BOX OF HER 1966 CHEVY CAPRICE. SHE LOOKED AT THE OUTSTRETCHED HAND AND THEN SHE TOLD HIM, WITH HER HALF-TOOTHED SMILE, THAT HE SHOULD SAVE HIS GALLANTRY UNTIL SHE WAS OLDER AND LESS SPRY. SHE HOPPED DOWN ONTO THE LAWN HERSELF.

**Evangelism. Community Development.** Talking with a neighbour. Church Planting. Disaster Relief. Justice and advocacy. Fixing a step. All of these are Missions, a term that can encapsulate an entire range of objectives which come together around the fundamental concepts of leadership and service. The story about the lady and her steps, adapted from an anecdote told by Redeemer student Evangeline Godron, illustrates how leadership and service can effectively work together. If a mission is a "journey with a purpose," picture three people walking together on that journey. The servant and the leader surround the 92-year old lady. The leader would be positioned in the front, with the ability to bring the others to that certain destination of the mission; the one who serves on that journey would be positioned in the back, putting others ahead of him- or herself. Now, instead of three, picture two people on that journey. The servant-leader walks *alongside* the 92-year old lady, maintaining her dignity and encouraging mutual learning. Such a servant-leader may fix the porch stairs, but he or she would undoubtedly also take a step back to give her room to hop down.

One of Redeemer's institutional objectives is to "equip students



**Matt saw the disparity between the comparative wealth of his own life and the lives of the poor around him; he testified, "We do not realize how blessed we are until we see the world through others' eyes."**

for lives of leadership and service under the Lordship of Jesus Christ." To meet this objective, Redeemer strives to cultivate an environment which challenges each student to negotiate a personal definition and application of leadership and service in his or her life. This is part of the final product of an education through which students explore "the relation of faith, learning, and living." Some of this exploration, for students such as Lee-Anne Dryfhout who was a part of the Missions trip to Amsterdam this past year, occurs through the relationships forged with fellow students at Redeemer. For others, there is a direct affinity between course work and exploring the relation of faith, living, and learning. Carlena Van Driel felt prepared by Redeemer for her experience at the Montreal Seafarers Centre: the "Introduction to Mission and World Christianity" course helped her to develop practical tools for evangelism.

For other students, the step of faith through a Missions trip is the living that reflects back on the learning. Suzanne Selles, who went to both Amsterdam and Mississippi on trips organized by Redeemer, finds that her experiences on these trips give her perspective as a business major. She said, "Business can be so focused on money and profit, but going out and seeing people who have nothing really brings you down to earth." While Suzanne relates her experiences in Amsterdam and Mississippi directly to her course of study, Christine Westra, who went to Honduras, identifies more of an indirect connection to academics at Redeemer: "The process of studying at Redeemer is not just about stuffing more knowledge into your head. It's about the experiences that you go through, and how that changes you as a person along the way. Life is a process of experiences, and this trip was one more experience for me," she said.

Matt Garey, a Physical Education major, goes even further and disconnects his experience in the classroom entirely from his Missions trip. He maintains that Redeemer's greatest contribution to his experience was to provide the opportunity. Once in Amsterdam, Matt saw the disparity between the comparative wealth of his own life and the lives of the poor around him; he testified, "We do not realize how blessed we are until we see the world through others' eyes." This process of learning made him aware of "just how much faith you need to be able to be a leader for the Lord." Similarly, Evangeline Godron went to Mississippi to serve, but now, after her experience, she continues to look at and contemplate the broader issues of social justice and inequity. She also focuses on the positive aspects of the racial and educational demographics of Port Gibson, issues that she do not directly relate to her Redeemer education.

The lack of connection between course of study (particularly Mission courses) and Missions trips does not affect the interest in either one. The trips, Dr. Mike Goben of Redeemer said, "do fuel interest in mission and bring students to courses." Although he said it probably should change, this disconnect



*Building homes in Port Gibson MS*

does not undermine the fact that there is a vital and important connection between Redeemer, its environment, its students, and its Missions trips.

In the early 1980s, Redeemer initiated the first Missions trip to the Montreal Seafarers' Centre. Students still help out at the Centre year after year, talking and witnessing to sailors. Since 1989, the addition of trips to Latin America through Neal Hegeman and World Missions (a Christian Reformed Church agency) changed the face of Redeemer's participation in Missions trips by focusing on various reconstruction efforts in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Opportunities for students to broaden their cultural awareness increased when Redeemer began to organize trips to Honduras through the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee to work on housing and water system construction. Begun in 1992 through the Mahoneys of Christian Volunteer Services, the Port Gibson, Mississippi trip, however, integrates the Missions objectives of evangelism and reconstruction. When asked about the Mississippi trip, Eileen Fallon, Assistant Dean of Students at Redeemer, said that the students are given the opportunity to help the elderly, the disabled, or young single mothers fix their homes, to witness in the county jail and to provide





*Developing relationships is an essential aspect of service*

an annual block party for the unchurched, poor families in Port Gibson. Most recently, in February, 2001, Eileen, through *Youth With a Mission* (YWAM), initiated a trip to Amsterdam, Holland and worked together to "share Christ's love" to people with broken hearts and lives from every part of the world.

This desire to share Christ's love emerges as the most fundamental and basic motivation for the students to go on their respective trips. It manifests itself in a spirit of selflessness: Evangeline Godron went to Mississippi primarily to "help low income home owners," she said. Similarly, Christine Westra said, "I really wanted to give of my time and efforts to something outside of my little bubble of concerns." Suzanne Selles also recognizes a similar motivation for going to Mississippi and Amsterdam. She said, "It is nice to spend that week doing something for someone else rather than just for yourself."

Although they share a common motivation, the students discern that each trip has its own focus and goals. "We were continually conscious of our beliefs and eager to share them with the people we stayed with," testified Christine; however, she also made the distinction between a Missions trip and a service project. Her trip was not so much about sharing "the gospel of Jesus Christ," as it was about "learning to live in faith." Similarly, Suzanne, after going on the Mississippi trip, knew that the trip to Amsterdam would be a completely new experience for her. This differentiation between the two types of trips also makes it possible for some students who first experience a "service trip" to build on that experience and prepare for a "Missions trip" after that. Lee-Anne Dryhout, for example, feels that her trip to Mississippi, which wasn't "as relational," was a good first trip. In Amsterdam, she felt a "strong presence of God," she said, which gave her the confidence to become "relational." Suzanne also affirms God's presence by testifying, "God opens up doors for you."

These incredible testimonies, which came from almost every student whether on a service project or a "Missions trip" point to a larger, more encompassing definition and application of "Mission." Dr. Mike Goheen acknowledges that there is still a "struggle against colonial views of mission that reduce it to an unidirectional enterprise from the West to other parts of the world." This struggle has also gone as far as to question the

**This desire to share Christ's love emerges as the most fundamental and basic motivation for the students to go on their respective trips.**

efficacy of work teams and the ethnocentricity of evangelistic endeavours. In light of this struggle, the definition of mission must necessarily become more wholistic. Dr. Goheen advocates for mission as a "comprehensive category covering all of Christian life." For all Christians this means "participating in God's mission to redeem creation." This wholistic aspect of mission is also embodied, to differing degrees, by the agencies through which Redeemer organizes the Missions trips. On its web site (<http://ywam.gospelcom.net>), *Youth With a Mission* affirms that one of its foundational values is that it does not make a "distinction between the sacred and the secular." The implication of this value is that men and women are mobilized to "take roles of service and influence in every sphere of society." The Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (CRWRC) also incorporates its "core value" of "restoration and reconciliation" into "all areas of life" until all people "live in wholeness and dignity."

This dynamic view of mission cannot do less than bring vital change to the people who truly participate in it. Although some are still learning to place their experience of Missions trips within the totality of their experiences, Redeemer students are truly being equipped for "lives of leadership and service" through the personal growth, that is in some part, sustained by Redeemer. Matt learned about being a leader by depending on the ultimate leader, Jesus Christ, and Suzanne feels that her faith was strengthened; she said, "You can really see God working in your life and through you." For some students, this personal growth resulted in learning more about themselves. Lee-Anne learned, through the "freedom" of testimony, about "who God created her to be"; Christine testifies, "this trip was one more experience for me to learn a little bit more about myself, about other people, about hard work."

As many lives are changed in different and sustainable ways, this world that belongs to God is experiencing the reconciliation possible only through Christ. On earth, Christ walked among His people and suffered with them. He died for the poor and for the sinner, restoring both and providing an impetus for evangelistic and service missions. His life and death also compel a wholistic view of mission which pervades all spheres of life. Redeemer University College is committed to reflecting this restoration using the perfect example of Christ. By equipping its students, through both academics and opportunities to "replace porch steps" Redeemer is helping to shape servant-leaders who will walk one-on-one, and continue to take their "faith and learning" into their "living."

*Marcia Mantel (Elgersma) graduated from Redeemer in 1997 with a double major in Honours English and Psychology. She earned an MA in English Literature from the University of Guelph in 1999 and currently works as a Communications Associate for the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee in Burlington.*



# Do it *afraid*

Student revels in opportunities for spiritual growth and service at Redeemer

BY TIM WOLFERT

Self-help experts and management gurus tell us that to experience personal or institutional growth, we need to "Think Outside the Box." For Christians longing to have a closer walk with the Lord, Jesus calls us to "Step out of the Boat," and walk in faith. Mark Stahle, a second-year student at Redeemer, has taken this advice

has been a difficult, but ultimately rewarding experience for me," he says. "I've come to appreciate other traditions, while recognizing the strengths and weaknesses of my own church."

Stahle points out the greater emphasis in the Reformed tradition of tangible actions of service, compared to the Pentecostal focus on verbal proclamation of the Gospel, as an example of these differences. To help bridge the gap between the two, Stahle and a few other students formed Saturday Night Alive, a program that brings together those who want to experience a variety of activities. "We have Outreach and In-Reach programs at SNA," he says. "One week we might be singing in a seniors home, and then the next week we might have a speaker address the group on how to strengthen our prayer life."

Stahle also brings strengths and talents from his own tradition to Redeemer. Christian contemporary and worship music is dear to Stahle, and he finds expression for that in his involvement with the Church in the Box Praise Team and singing in the Concert Choir. He has also organized a few dances on campus that feature CCM artists. "I believe that dance itself can be a form of worship," he says.

Stepping out of the boat is difficult, especially when it means stretching your faith. "I heard someone say that you need to 'Do it afraid'," Stahle says. "God will challenge you to move beyond your comfort zone; but he also promises strength for the task." As students like Stahle continue to step out of the boat, their personal growth positively impacts the entire Redeemer community. 1

**"I heard someone say that you need to 'Do it afraid'," Stahle says. "God will challenge you to move beyond your comfort zone; but he also promises strength for the task."**

to heart and the result has powerfully impacted his personal growth and the Redeemer community.

Stahle hails from Clonduboye, ON, a community he says is known mainly as "a curve on the road between London and Exeter." Raised in a Pentecostal church, Stahle has a good friend who attends the Exeter Christian Reformed Church and who encouraged Stahle to investigate Redeemer when he graduated from Medway High School.

Although through his friend Stahle had some exposure to Reformed theology and traditions, he was a bit apprehensive when he first came to Redeemer. "I love my traditions and the way that we worship. I didn't want to have to give all that up." And he certainly was exposed to new ideas that first year. "I didn't even know what a worldview was, let alone try to articulate my own!"

Throughout his second year, however, Stahle came to appreciate what he calls the "big questions" with which he was faced. "The (liberal arts) core courses which I have taken have really opened my eyes to see how my faith relates to everything that I do and study." It also led him to question some of his own traditions. "That



Photo: Peter J. Lang

# News

## Homecoming 2001



If former students are invited to Homecoming 2001, hosted by Redeemer University College and the Alumni Association on Saturday, September 15. We hope that you and your family will join us for a great day of activities and reminiscing as we celebrate the education and the friendships that were part of our time at Redeemer.

The Alumni Board has expanded the focus of Homecoming this year. Not only will we mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Class of '91, we will also commemorate the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first graduates, the Class of '86, and the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Class of '96. But it is important to remember that all alumni, no matter when they left Redeemer, are invited to campus for this event.

The Homecoming Committee has been working on getting ready for September's activities. We know that not everyone wants to, or is able to participate in all the events at Homecoming, but we hope that you will be able to join us for at least part of the day. We think that there is something for everyone.

The day starts with competitive fun at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Alumni Golf Tournament at the Old Course at Knollwood. It will be a Best Ball Tournament; sign up as a foursome or

throw your name into the hat and the Alumni Office will set up a foursome for you.

The Alumni Association Annual Meeting convenes at Redeemer at 3:00 pm, and the Homecoming Registration and Welcome Table opens at 3:30 pm. At 4:00 pm, several "experienced" faculty will present their own side of the story in The Unofficial History of Redeemer. Be warned – they may remember you! During this time, there will be activities for young children, organized and supervised by Redeemer students.

There will be a BBQ dinner in the front quad starting at 5:30. Please bring your own lawn chair. After dinner, there will be a tour of the campus, including the new residence and the new outdoor recreation facility (see p. 14), for anyone who is interested in seeing how much Redeemer has, or hasn't, changed.

We are also pleased to announce that the Immigrants will be returning to perform at 8:00 pm in the Auditorium. This concert, co-sponsored by the Alumni Association and Student Life, is only \$3 for all alumni with their Alumni ID card.

The registration form and the schedule for the day's activities are below. Please register no later than Sept. 1. If you would like some more information, contact the Alumni Office.

### Information for Registration Box:

#### Homecoming 2001 Registration Package

Please complete the following and send to the Alumni Office by September 1. Make cheque payable to Redeemer University College.

/We plan to participate in the following

#### ☐ 9:00 - Alumni Golf Tournament

\$40 per person (includes green fees and prize table). There are a limited number of spaces and pre-registration is required. This is a best-ball tournament; you may sign up individually or as a foursome (please include names of partners). You will be contacted with exact tee-off time (between 9 and 10 am). **Please contact the Alumni Office if you wish to donate a door prize.**

☐ 3:00 - Alumni Annual Meeting (see accompanying article) if you are not able to attend, please take a moment to complete the proxy ballot below.

☐ 3:30 - Registration and Welcome Desk opens  
Check out the displays featuring the graduates of '86, '91 and '96.

#### ☐ 4:00 - The Unofficial History of Redeemer

Free! But please send the names and ages of your children if you want them to participate in organized activities.

☐ 5:30 - Barbecue Dinner  
Burgers, hot dogs, salads, desserts and hot and cold drinks  
\_\_\_ @ \$7 per person  
\_\_\_ @ \$5 per child under 12 (kids under 5 free)  
\_\_\_ @ \$20 per family

☐ 7:00 - Campus Tours  
Leave from the front quad to check out the new residence hall and recreation facility.

☐ 8:00 - The Immigrants in concert  
\$3 for alumni and students (ID cards required)  
\$7 for others, tickets available at the door.

Name(s)  
Child(ren's names and ages

Address

Phone

E-mail

#### Proxy Ballot:

Must be signed and returned to the Alumni Office by Friday, September 14. For Alumni Representative to the Senate (choose 1)

☐ Lloyd Harg

☐ Heather Blomquist

Do you support the changes to the Constitution as proposed in *Images*?

☐ Yes

☐ No



# CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS REDEEMER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Proposed Amendments — January, 2001

Highlighted text refers to proposed deletions

Bold, italicized text refers to proposed additions

## CONSTITUTION

### Article III Meetings

- Section 1**
- The Association shall convene a general membership meeting on an annual basis.
  - The members of the Association must be given 45 days notice of the annual meeting in the official publication of the Association.

### Article VI Amendments

- Section 1**
- ~~This constitution may be amended at the Annual Meeting of the Association by a two-thirds vote of ballots cast.~~
  - Any proposed amendment to the constitution shall be presented to the Board. If the Board recommends the amendment, such a proposal shall be published in *Images*, with a ballot, at least thirty days prior to Labour Day for consideration by the membership.
  - ~~This constitution may be amended by the Association by a two-thirds vote of ballots received by Labour Day.~~

## BYLAWS

### Article IV Election Policy and Procedures

- Section 1**
- Nominations for all elected offices of the Board shall be forwarded to the Board.
  - The Board shall publish the nominations and ballots (except for the Alumni Representative to the Board of Governors) in *Images* or in some other vehicle mailed to all members of the Association by July 1 each year, at least 45 days prior to the annual meeting of the Association.
- Section 2**
- Elections for the Members-at-Large shall occur via ballots received by Labour Day, at the annual meeting of the Association.
- Section 3**
- All members of the Association who are present at the annual meeting are eligible to cast one ballot for the Board positions. The following procedures shall be followed:
- When members register for the annual meeting, they shall have their ballots initiated by the Board or any persons the Board empowers.
    - The Board shall maintain a supply of ballots at the registration area.
  - Once the members have had their ballots initiated, their names shall be struck from a list of members.
  - Only initiated ballots will be counted.
  - Ballots may be cast at the meeting itself or throughout the day at a Board-supervised ballot box.
- Section 4**
- If a member of the Association is unable to attend the annual meeting, the following procedures shall be used to cast a proxy ballot:
- Members shall mark and sign their ballot and mail it to the Alumni Office Affairs Coordinator.
  - Members may submit ballots via e-mail to [alumni@rcardcom.on.ca](mailto:alumni@rcardcom.on.ca), provided that their name and address appear on the e-mail message received.
  - The Alumni Affairs Coordinator shall mark the members name off a list of members and place the ballot in a secure location.
  - All proxy ballots will be stored until the Executive meets to count the ballots. This meeting will take place after Labour Day and prior to the Homecoming celebration, (normally held on the third Saturday of September); the annual meeting, they will then be counted with the rest of the ballots.
  - A member may still attend a meeting once a proxy ballot has been cast, but he/she will be ineligible to cast another ballot.

# Alumni Annual Meeting

11 alumni are invited to the Association's Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 15 at 3:00 pm. This is your chance to provide input to the Board and hear reports of the Board's activities, initiatives, and future plans. We will also be electing a new Alumni Representative to the Senate. Al Bakker '89 has served Redeemer and its alumni with distinction for the past 6 years in this regard. The Board is pleased to present the following candidates to fill this vacancy, which also includes membership on the Board.

### Lloyd Rang '88 of Bowmanville.

*Lloyd is a former teacher who now works as a speechwriter for the Ontario government. He graduated from Redeemer in 1989 and went on to earn an MA in History from Queen's and an MA in Literature/Creative Writing from the University of Guelph. Lloyd is a former President of the Alumni Board. He, his wife Sandra, and their four cats live in Bowmanville, Ontario. Lloyd writes: "I am a staunch supporter of the Christian Liberal Arts tradition, and am keenly interested in Alumni issues. I look forward to serving the Redeemer community."*

### Heather Sinnema '99 of Toronto.

*After graduating from Redeemer in '99 with a B.A. in French and Sociology, Heather went on to complete a Master's degree in French Literature at the U. of Toronto and is now teaching French at Cornerstone Preparatory School in downtown Toronto. She writes: "Because of my experience as a high school teacher and as a graduate student, I have a deep interest in academics at many levels and would love to help sustain and develop the already-rich academic programs at Redeemer."*

If you are unable to attend this meeting, but would still like to vote, you may send in a proxy ballot. The ballot must be signed and returned to the Alumni Office by Friday, September 14. If you and your spouse (if you are both alumni) would like to vote, please make another copy of the ballot. An alumnus of Redeemer University College is someone who has successfully completed eight courses.

## Board Proposes Changes to Constitution

At its January 12 meeting, the Alumni Board proposed a number of changes to the Alumni Association's Constitution and By-Laws. These changes, dealing with the Alumni Annual Meeting, are seen as ways to streamline the election process and eliminate the need for the annual meeting.

Since all changes to the Association's Constitution require approval of the Membership, these changes are presented here. Changes to the By-Laws are presented to the Membership for information. Alumni have the opportunity to vote on these changes at the Alumni Association's Annual Meeting, or via proxy ballot. Alumni who wish to have a copy of the entire Constitution and By-laws are asked to contact the Alumni Office.

## News

### The Immigrants Release New EP— Plan on Redeemer Return

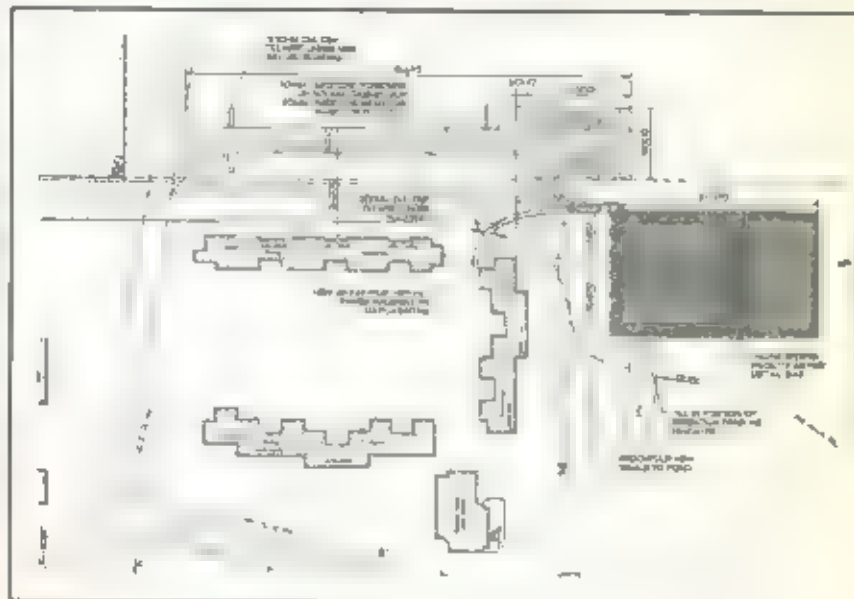


**2001** has been an exciting year for the Immigrants with the release in January of their 5-song EP *Out on a Limb*. It is the third release for the band, which consists of Redeemer alumni Paul Hogterp, Pete Zanlungh, and Rob Van Hartingsveldt. Recorded in 2000, the EP has had 3 singles on Canadian radio, including "Feel" which climbed to #16 on the Canadian charts. Videos for "Out on a Limb" and "Holding onto This Somehow", the current single, are in rotation on MuchMusic, Canada's music video channel. The band is also busy touring Ontario and expects to visit Western Canada in June. They will return to Central Canada for a summer of outdoor festival concerts and club dates.

On Saturday, September 15, the Immigrants will return to play in Redeemer's Auditorium at 8:00 pm. This concert, sponsored by the Alumni Association and Student Life, is \$3 for students and alumni (with ID cards). Tickets for others are \$7 each (General Admission) and will be available at the door the night of the show.

Further information on the Immigrants, including tour dates, and information on ordering CDs, can be found at [www.theimmigrants.ca](http://www.theimmigrants.ca). *Out on a Limb* is also available in most record stores across Ontario. TW

### Tennis, Basketball courts to be built with SRF funds



Since 1986, every full-time Redeemer student, as part of his or her student fees, has contributed \$ 00 per year toward a student recreation facility. Although some of that money has been redirected over the years to fund scholarships and library improvements, there is still almost \$400,000 of student fees set aside for the construction of a recreation facility. This summer, some of that money is going to be used to construct outdoor tennis and basketball courts.

As per the terms of the 1996 Student/Recreation Facility Fee Agreement (SRF), this year's Student Senate approached the Alumni Board and Redeemer about using some of the collected money to construct an outdoor recreation area. "There really is a shortage of recreation facilities for students," noted Mutt Heimbuch '01, Senate's Vice-President and the person who has championed the project. Student Senate recommended that a portion of the funds be used to construct tennis and basketball courts. Administrative Council agreed, and the Board Executive approved the project at its meeting in April. The courts will be lit and the tennis courts will be fenced in; in the winter, these courts could also be used for ball hockey. Much like the other athletic facilities, the Athletic Department will look after operating and booking the courts. Alumni will have access to the courts in the same way they can use the weight room and squash courts.

The new courts will be constructed between the third parking lot (Res. 32-36) and the soccer field. As part of Redeemer's Master Plan, a new road will be started to the east of the third parking lot. When it is eventually pulled through, this will be the road that rings the north part of the campus. In the meantime, it will provide access and parking for both the tennis courts and the soccer field.

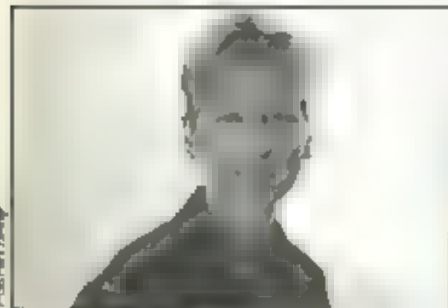
The Alumni Board agreed with spending a portion of the money on this particular facility because it feels that students and alumni should be able to see some of their gifts

*continued on page 18*



## Two new members for the Stewardship Team

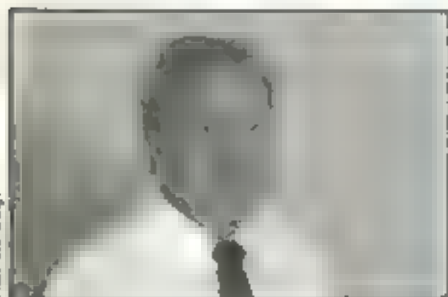
**T**he Stewardship Department at Redeemer University College welcomes two new members to its team. Rita Klein-Gelink has been appointed as Manager of Gift Planning. Rita has been working at Redeemer for seven years, most recently as Administrative Assistant to the President. She and her husband Gerald live in Cambridge and have four sons, two of whom currently attend Redeemer.



Rita Klein-Gelink

Rita is excited about her new role at Redeemer: "The cause of Christian education has always been close to my heart. I look forward to the opportunity to meet personally with supporters of Redeemer University College who share this same passion."

Bernie Voortman has also been appointed, as a part-time Gift Planning Officer. Bernie



Bernie Voortman

and his wife Anna live in Flamborough with their five children. He too is looking forward to advancing the work of Redeemer "I am pleased that God has given me the opportunity to help provide the leaders of tomorrow a Christ-centred university education. The

education that Redeemer gives to our young people will benefit not only this generation, but many generations to come. I have always had a heart for young people, and I am excited to be a part of God's kingdom through the work that is being done at Redeemer."

Rita and Bernie have undergone extensive training and look forward to discussing Planned Giving opportunities with Redeemer supporters. Rita and Bernie are prepared to offer advice and assistance in estate planning, stewardship, and other gift planning options. Either can be reached by calling the Stewardship Office at Redeemer toll-free at 877 779 0913.

### Redeemer's Capital Needs for 2001-02

According to fundraising manuals, one of the main reasons why people don't give is because "No one asked me."

Redeemer recognizes that its support community continues to be very generous, and would like to put before it the following urgent needs. "There are supporters who are in a position to assist Redeemer with specific items, either as special purpose gifts or donations in kind," notes Bill van Stankunen, Vice-President (Advancement). "We would like to let our community know what our needs are."

- Technology and Computer Replacement
  - Computers, software and video cameras
- Academic Building Upgrades
  - Roofing, new doors, etc.
- Music Department Needs
  - Building sound proof practice rooms
- Campus Security Enhancements
  - Camera system, fire-keying locks
- Student Equipment Needs
  - Lab equipment such as a Fourier transform spectrophotometer
- Athletic Department Needs
  - Sports equipment, video/DV camera
- Superstore
  - Bookstore shelving, additional handbikes
- Auditorium
  - New sound and light board

If for further information about working together to meet these needs, please contact Mark van Stankunen at Redeemer.

## Empowering our Legacy Partners

**I**t's difficult to believe how much has changed at Redeemer since it opened on Beach Boulevard 19 years ago. With the Lord's blessing and the prayers and help of our faithful support community, Redeemer has witnessed more breakthroughs and accomplishments than many ever dreamed possible when it all began.

The last three years have been especially rewarding: new degree designations, a new name, new residence, and record enrolment increases that have brought almost 700 students to Redeemer this past year.

Exciting opportunities like increasing enrolment, academic building expansion, and expanding the academic program still await. One of the greatest of these is the need to reduce and eliminate Redeemer's long-term debt. Held entirely by our support community, this debt arose largely from the construction of the Ancaster campus. And once the debt is dealt with, Redeemer can begin to expand its endowment portfolio, a legacy that will provide on-going stability and support for future growth.

With the Lord's promise and the partnership of our many supporters, we know we can step forward in faith. Together, we have an unparalleled opportunity to build a strong legacy of Christian higher education for generations of Christian leaders.

For more information on the Legacy Partners program, please call Mr. Ben Siegeman, Stewardship Director, at 877 779 0913.

# Profile Filling the Void

**Redeemer profs  
promote**

**Christian academics in  
Ukraine**

Many Christians rejoiced when communism collapsed in the late-1980s and the Soviet Union disintegrated. But when the political, economic, and social ideology that had been the exclusive state policy for over 75 years so suddenly and dramatically imploded, a vacuum was created. If communism, the only way

Eastern Bloc people were taught to understand their existence, was shown to be false, how then could they structure their world?

Dr. Mike Gohsen, Associate Professor of Religion and Theology, and Dr. Jim Payton, Professor of History, are two of a number of Christian scholars from North America and Eastern Europe who are trying to fill this void through a series of conferences organized each year by the Crimean-American College in Simferopol, Ukraine. These inter-disciplinary conferences provide an opportunity for Christian and non-Christian academics and professionals to present and discuss ideas related to worldview issues.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to present the gospel message to people who have been taught for generations to reject the comprehensive claims of Christianity," notes Dr. Gohsen. Although there is an evangelistic dimension to the conferences (some of the attendees have come to know the Lord through the years), Gohsen and Payton say that their most important work there is in working with and strengthening the local Christian academic community. "These people, who will be the leaders of their society, are looking for a structure upon which to base their society," says Gohsen. "Communism has failed and capitalism is

Photo: Steve Taylor



*Crimean Medical University, Simferopol*

Photo: Steve Taylor



*Dr. James Payton*

Photo: David Bailey



*Dr. Michael Gohsen*

not living up to its billing. The gospel, however, does provide answers."

How do Redeemer professors end up in a city on the Black Sea? The Crimean-American College (CAC) has a dean and a professor who work with a mission group that sends Christian scholars to

other parts of the world. It co-sponsors the conferences with the Crimean Medical University and the prestigious Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. About 25% of the presenters are western scholars and the rest come from Russia and the Ukraine. "Scholars in that part of the world are hungering for the chance to participate in academic conferences and have their work published," notes Dr. Payton. "The system is so starved for cash that there is often not enough money even to pay professor's salaries, let alone fund scholarship." The CAC students translate the presentation and discussions for the visiting scholars, who often lecture at a number of local universities in the area as well.

Both scholars have enjoyed their time in the Ukraine, and their experiences have found their way into the classes that they teach. Dr. Payton's research is in the history of Eastern Europe and Eastern Orthodoxy, and Dr. Gohsen teaches World Christianity. "I am convinced that ecumenical contact is essential," says Dr. Gohsen of his work with fellow Christians. "I have been challenged and have grown both spiritually and professionally." And these contacts will help ensure that the gospel message is heard as Eastern European society begins to rebuild out of the rubble of communism's collapse.



## Science Grads awarded major honours



Randy Elzinga (left) and Kyle Spyksma (right)

Two of this year's science graduates have received substantial awards as part of their acceptance into graduate school. Randy Elzinga, a mathematics major from Hamilton ON, has been offered \$17,000 from Queen's University to pursue graduate studies in mathematics, and Kyle Spyksma, a Mathematics-Computer Science major from Langley, BC, has been accepted at McGill University to pursue an M.Sc. in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences. Spyksma received a \$17,000 per year graduate assistantship from McGill to cover the cost of his studies.

According to Dr. Kevin Vander Meulen, Associate Professor of Mathematics at Redeemer, both Elzinga's and Spyksma's applications were strengthened by the research they had done at Redeemer over the last few years. "Both Randy and Kyle have received NSERC [Natural Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada] awards. It looks very good on an application." Spyksma's work is with Dr. W. van Dijk on particle decay, and Elzinga worked with Dr. Vander Meulen for two summers. Another graduate, Katrina Van Gilst of Finch, ON, is also working with Dr. Vander Meulen this summer thanks to an NSERC grant.

## Hundreds of projects featured at Science Fair

The Natural Sciences and Mathematics Division hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> Biennial Science Fair this April. This event featured students from 46 Christian schools across Ontario and 179 projects. Organizing the 2-day fair was quite the project itself – more than 100 people, many who came from off-campus, acted as judges, and numerous Redeemer students and faculty volunteered to ensure that the participants had an informative and enjoyable time.

Projects were judged on a number of criteria, including the project's originality, presentation, its abstract and workbook (which were required to accompany the project), and the participants' ability to formulate a Christian perspective on their work. The judges were impressed with the breadth and quality of the projects, and with the way students had prepared their presentations.

There was a wide variety of projects submitted, and each one was judged according to its type or focus: Experiment, Study, Innovation, Physical Science, and Life Science. All participants received ribbons, and about half of the projects received first-place ribbons, indicative of the quality of the projects.

Some of the key awards include:

**First Place – The Best Overall Project:**

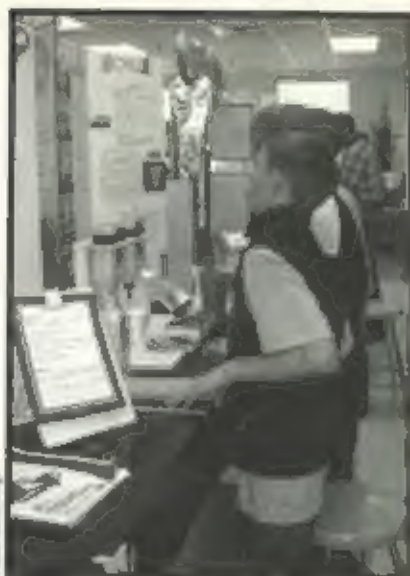
*Danielle Gillisuskas of Oakville Christian School. Which Group of Cleaners is the Best Tea Stain Remover?*

**The Cusance Foundation Award for Christian Perspective:**

*Mouque Lal of Timothy Christian School in Rexdale. Which Fruit or Vegetable has the most Vitamin C?*

**Top School (based on best three projects):**

*Maranatha Christian Academy, Windsor*



Students examine a project at the Science Fair

All the winning projects, including photographs, are posted on the Science Fair website: <http://cs.redeemer.on.ca/scifair/>.

The Science Fair involved more than just juried presentations. The student presenters and others were invited to "The Magic of Molecules," a lively presentation led by Dr. David Humphries, Emeritus Professor of Chemistry at McMaster University. The schools also took part in a Science Olympiad during their stay at Redeemer, and the students were invited to a banquet with all of the participants and their chaperones. An Awards Program closed the Science Fair.

The Science Fair is the culmination of a long process that starts with the participating schools having their own individual science fairs to determine who is eligible to attend the Redeemer fair. But the work is worth it, both for the students and teachers who put in many extra hours to pull the projects together, and for the scores of people at Redeemer who volunteer to host the Science Fair. Ron Van der Heiden, Lab Instructor at Redeemer, points out that, "the Science Fair brings many parts of the larger Christian school community together. Through the Fair, we raise awareness of the importance of carefully examining God's creation and our quest to understand it, benefit from it, and responsibly take care of it." The next Science Fair is scheduled for April, 2003.



## Faculty Changes

Dr. Jim Rocks, Assistant Professor of Education, is going home. A native of Holland, MI, Dr. Rocks has resigned from Redeemer to take a position with the Education Department at Calvin College. Rocks, his wife Arda, and their four daughters will live in Holland, about a 45 minute drive to Calvin.

Dr. Rooks came to Redesmer in 1991 and earned his Ed.D. from the University of Toronto in 1997. Besides his teaching and teacher observation duties, he also worked with a number of teachers in the greater Hamilton area on developing techniques for the teaching of reading.

We thank Dr. Rooks for his contributions to Redeemer over the years and wish him and his family the Lord's blessing.

Redeemer is pleased to announce a number of new faculty appointments for the 2001-02 academic year. Given the demand for university instructors across the country, we are grateful that God has brought these people to us, and we welcome them to the Redeemer community.

**Mr. Rob Harvey** (tenure-track appointment in Business): Mr. Harvey is a known commodity for Redeemer students—he has taught part-time for a number of years. Hailing from Oakville, Harvey has an MBA from Regent University in Virginia (1989), and brings 15 years of industry and management consulting experience to the classroom.

**Dr. Sara Croke** (sessional appointment)

in Biology): A resident of Ancaster, Dr. Croken has a PhD in Biology from McMaster University (2000). She will be filling in for Dr. Jitse Vandermeer, who is on sabbatical next year.

**Mr. Dirk Windhorst** (seasonal appointment in Education): Mr. Windhorst lives in Stoney Creek and will be taking up the position vacated by Dr. Brooks. He holds an MEd from Brock University (1995).

**Ms Brenda Stephenson** (seasonal appointment in Psychology): Ms Stephenson holds an MA in Psychology from Wheaton College, Chicago (1983), and will fill the vacancy left when Dr. Benner resigned from the Psychology Department last December.

# Personal Touch

With thankfulness to God, Clarence Korvemaker '94 and his wife Elaine (Drouma) are pleased to announce the safe arrival of a healthy baby girl, Amie Mariah, born on Friday, March 16, 2001. She is a precious little sister for her big brother Kyle (21 months). The Korvemarkers are living in the St. Thomas area where Clarence is working in the tool and die trade and Elaine is enjoying being at home full time with their children. Address: 45616 Ron McNeil Line, St. Thomas, ON N5P 3T3. Phone: (519) 631-5762. [celkory@hotmail.com](mailto:celkory@hotmail.com)

Beth Ann Wiersma (Droume) '84, BEd '85, and Paul Wiersma would like to announce to the whole world the birth of their first born, Caleb Isaac Wiersma. Caleb was born on Friday, April 13 at 2:25 a.m. and weighed in at 9 pounds, 4 ounces. Mother, baby and father are doing well. Address: 480 London Road, Sarnia, ON, N7T 4X2. [wiersmaba@hotmail.com](mailto:wiersmaba@hotmail.com)  
[pwiersma@lambtonchristian.com](mailto:pwiersma@lambtonchristian.com)

Letitia (Chan) '90, BEd'92 and David Young had another baby girl, named Pearl Elyse Young on December 3, 2001. Pearl joins her big sister Cora (2 years). The family is having a great

time living in the South (close to Myrtle Beach).  
Address: 405 Bule CL, Fayetteville, SC 28304.  
Phone: (910) 433-2822

Anita Boomsma '90 would like to announce her marriage to Leo Woudstra on October 8, 2000. Address: 60 Corey Circle, Georgetown, ON, L7G 5L7. Phone: (905) 877-1785

### News of Interest

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grad year: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (spouse, maiden): \_\_\_\_\_

Grad year: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Nerves: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Continued from page 14

come to fruition. "The 'recreation facility' has been, over the years, everything from pool to an ice rink, to new student centre," notes Arlene Heidbuurt '89, Alumni Board President. "Those are very big ticket items which may take many years to realize. There is a need right here, right now; so why not use the funds that are there to meet those needs?"

Although quotes are still coming in, construction costs are estimated to be around \$120,000. The entire cost of the project will be covered by the Student Recreation Fund. Construction will begin as soon as the necessary preparation work, including archaeological surveys, is completed. The new surfaces are scheduled to be ready by the time students return in September.

The remaining balance in the SRF will continue to be set aside for the development of a student recreation facility when Redeemer undertakes its next major capital expansion. Currently there is no timetable for that expansion. As laid out in the Agreement, Student Senate and the Alumni Board will be consulted before any development would take place. **TW**



# Packing for Africa

## What you really need to take with you

BY GREG SENNEMA '93

**B**efore leaving for Tanzania to take up a position with the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (CRWRC), my wife and I asked some CRWRC staff what kind of provisions we should bring along with us from Canada. We were given many practical suggestions for types of clothing and other personal items. But of all these I particularly remember one: "you can come with the clothes on your back and you will survive."

Of course, since we were head-

ing to the heart of the "dark continent" for over two years, we did not pay too much heed to this humble and unrealistic advice. We proceeded to pack our allowance of four boxes with as much high-quality, life-saving stuff as we could: cool clothing, warm clothing, rain clothing, recreational clothing, hiking boots, casual shoes, dress shoes, sandals, extra shoe laces, deodorant, soap, gum, books, *SAS Survivor Guide*, batteries, army knives, watches, compass, GORE-TEX® this and ROCKPORT® that.

Armed with our provisions, we went to Tanzania. After some initial moving around, we finally settled into our new life by unpacking our stuff and beginning our work. As community developers

**We began to see, and still see today, how dependent we are on stuff. Bringing it along to Tanzania was one thing; thinking that we needed all these things in order to survive was another.**

with the CRWRC, we had the opportunity, among other things, to travel with Tanzanians throughout East Africa and to attend meetings and to learn from other development groups. And each time we traveled, we were continually amazed by how many possessions we lugged around with us, and how few possessions Tanzanians brought with them. And we even thought we were traveling light.

We began to question how much we really needed our stuff. Of course, clothing was

necessary, but did we really need so many different kinds? And those other items? Shoe laces – actually, I cannot remember the last time I broke a shoe lace, let alone four sets in a two and a half year period. *SAS Survivor Guide*? I never did find it useful to know that when you find yourself in shark-infested waters, it is best to fling your feces as far away as possible so as not to attract too much attention.

We began to see, and still see today, how dependent we are on stuff. Bringing it along to Tanzania was one thing; thinking that we needed all these things in order to survive was another. Now, when people heading for Africa ask me what they should bring along with them, I can truthfully say that they can go with the clothes on their backs and they will survive. |

*Greg Sennema '93 and his wife Christy returned from Tanzania in 1999 with considerably less supplies than they brought. Greg now works at the Hekman Library at Calvin College as Digital Resources Librarian.*



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